

# Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

## Free hearing screenings during Better Speech and Hearing Month

**Press Release Date:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014

### **Contact Information:**

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 13, 2014)** — May is Better Speech and Hearing Month across America and in the spirit of awareness and hearing health, the National Hearing Test ([www.nationalhearingtest.org](http://www.nationalhearingtest.org)) is offering free hearing screenings during the entire month.

“If you suspect you have a hearing loss, there is no better time than this month to get a screening,” said Virginia L. Moore, executive director of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH). “If you find that you have a hearing loss, it can make you feel isolated. KCDHH can help you navigate the ocean of options available to you.”

One way to be tested is through the National Hearing Test, which is conducted over the phone. A landline connection is recommended. To take the test, call (866) 223-7575 and you will be guided through an automated process. The test takes about 10 minutes and you will receive your results immediately.

“Hearing loss affects people of all ages,” said Dr. Jill Preminger, associate professor of audiology at the University of Louisville. “Early identification and treatment is important as untreated hearing loss is associated with communication problems with family, friends and colleagues; depression; social isolation; and dementia.”

The test is a quick and accurate hearing screening to determine if you need a complete hearing evaluation with an audiologist. It was scientifically developed with funding from the National Institutes of Health to provide a low-cost screening test that can easily be taken over a telephone. The screening, which is normally \$8, is provided as a public service and has no financial connection with any hearing products or services.

To take the test or to learn more, visit [www.nationalhearingtest.org](http://www.nationalhearingtest.org).

In addition to the National Hearing Test, the Hearing Loss Association of America – Kentucky Chapters will host various presentations in May. Visit the organization’s [Facebook page](#) for more information.

The KCDHH serves the nearly 700,000 Kentuckians who have a hearing loss. Visit the KCDHH website, [www.kcdhh.ky.gov](http://www.kcdhh.ky.gov), or like us on [Facebook](#).